



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

April 18, 2005

News Release

IRANIAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FALSE STATEMENTS

Detroit Airport inspectors and ICE agents discovered undeclared \$45,000, land survey equipment

DETROIT – An Iranian man traveling with his family from Florida to Iran via Detroit pleaded guilty here today in U.S. District Court to providing false statements, following an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Seyed Mousavi-Khorasani, 42, a citizen of Iran, attempted to fly to Iran from Tampa Bay through Detroit Metropolitan Airport with his wife and daughter in May 2003. As U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) inspectors in Detroit examined Khorasani's possessions, they discovered \$35,813 that he was carrying and failed to declare. Further inspection of his luggage also revealed a piece of land survey equipment. It is illegal to export more than \$10,000 without declaring it. Also, due to a U.S. embargo with Iran, it is also illegal to export equipment.

During the course of the investigation, ICE Tampa special agents also uncovered an additional \$9,000 that Khorasani left with a friend for him to bring to Iran at a later date.

"Making material false statements to federal agents and officers is a crime that will not be tolerated. Neither will we tolerate those who seek to violate our currency reporting requirements and export laws," said ICE Detroit Special Agent-in-Charge Brian M. Moskowitz. "This case is a perfect example of ICE's unique authority to utilize the criminal, customs, and immigration laws to fight illegal activity."

Khorasani pleaded guilty today to 18 USC 1001, Making False Statements. As part of the plea, Khorasani also agreed to a judicial deportation, and forfeiture of the seized currency and land survey equipment. Both Khorasani's wife and daughter also agreed to abandon their permanent residence status in the U.S. and return to Iran.

Barbara L. McQuade of the U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Michigan, prosecuted the case.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.